

20. A method according to claim 16, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by heart disease.

21. A method according to claim 16, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by cancer.

22. A method according to claim 16, wherein said erythropoietin is administered intravenously.

23. A method of treating endothelial injury caused by mechanical damage, exposure to radiation, inflammation, heart disease or cancer, in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering an endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin to said subject; and wherein said erythropoietin is administered in an amount of from about 100 Units per kilogram to 200 Units per kilogram.

24. A method according to claim 23, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by mechanical damage.

25. A method according to claim 23, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by exposure to radiation.

26. A method according to claim 23, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by inflammation.

27. A method according to claim 23, wherein said endothelial injury is caused by heart disease.

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